

## CLAIMS

1. A picture information encoding method of performing an encoding process for picture information using a motion prediction, wherein the encoding process  
5 is performed for a block with at least one of moving vector information and coefficient information being omitted and the encoding process has an encoding mode in which the omitted information can be restored at a decoding side according to a predetermined rule, the  
10 method comprising the steps of:

determining whether the block can be encoded in the encoding mode with alternative information including motion information of predetermined adjacent blocks of the block; and

15 generating pseudo motion information instead of the unusable motion information and providing the pseudo motion information as the alternative information, when the motion information of at least one of the adjacent blocks is unusable.

20 2. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the pseudo motion information is usable motion information of a neighbor block of an adjacent block that has the unusable motion information.

25 3. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the pseudo motion information is a

predetermined value.

4. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the encoding mode includes a first mode in which the block is encoded with the moving vector information and the coefficient information being omitted, and

wherein at the determining step and the pseudo computing step the moving vector information is treated as the motion information in the first mode.

5. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 1,

wherein the encoding mode includes a second mode in which when the block is encoded with the moving vector information being omitted, and

wherein at the determination step and the pseudo computation step the moving vector information and the reference index information are treated as the motion information in the second mode.

6. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 2,

wherein the block is encoded according to MPEG4/AVC standard, and

wherein when the pseudo motion information does not match the motion information computed according to the MPEG4/AVC standard, at the determination step, the pseudo motion information is

not used as the alternative information.

7. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 2,

wherein the block is encoded according to  
5 MPEG4/AVC standard, and

wherein when the pseudo motion information does not match the motion information computed according to the MPEG4/AVC standard, at the determination step, the pseudo motion information is  
10 alternative moving vector information for a block of 16 x 16 in a first mode in which the block is encoded with the moving vector information and the coefficient information being omitted and the pseudo motion information is alternative moving vector information  
15 for a block of 16 x 16 or a block of 8 x 8 in a second mode in which the block is encoded with the moving vector information being omitted.

8. The picture information encoding method as set forth in claim 2,

20 wherein a block that has a larger spatial distance than the adjacent block that has the unusable motion information is selected as the neighbor block.

9. A picture information encoding apparatus that performs an encoding process for picture information  
25 using a motion prediction, wherein the encoding process is performed for a block with at least one of moving vector information and coefficient information being

omitted and the encoding process has an encoding mode in which the omitted information can be restored at a decoding side according to a predetermined rule, the apparatus comprising:

5                   a determining section that determining whether the block can be encoded in the encoding mode with alternative information including motion information of predetermined adjacent blocks of the block; and

10                   a pseudo computing section that generates pseudo motion information instead of unusable motion information and provides the pseudo motion information as the alternative information, when the motion information of at least one of the adjacent blocks is unusable.

15                   10.           A program that causes a computer to execute a picture information encoding method of performing an encoding process for picture information using a motion prediction, wherein the encoding process is performed for a block with at least one of moving vector information and coefficient information being omitted and the encoding process has an encoding mode in which the omitted information can be restored at a decoding side according to a predetermined rule, the method comprising the steps of:

25                   determining whether the block can be encoded in the encoding mode with alternative information

including motion information of predetermined adjacent blocks of the block; and

5           generating pseudo motion information instead of the unusable motion information and providing the pseudo motion information as the alternative information, when the motion information of at least one of the adjacent blocks is unusable.